

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the time and effort taken by the Examiner during the Examiner interview dated February 12, 2009 with Applicants' representative, Mr. Gary D. Yacura. During the interview, the Examiner's art grounds of rejection of claims 1-3 and 6-28 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Nonomura (U.S. Patent 6,574,419) was discussed.

During the interview, it was agreed that the AOBs and ASVOBs in Nonomura are decoded based on the PTSs in the packets of the AOBs and ASVOBs, respectively, but only the AOBs are output based on the PTSs in the packets of the AOBs. It was further agreed that the ASVOBs are output based on a display list, which is included in the PGC information. Namely, the ASVOBs are not output based on PTSs in the packets of the ASVOBs.

In the November 14, 2008 Office Action, the Examiner had stated that in Nonomura "Column 18, lines 49-57 on the other hand discloses that the output timing is represented by the PTS in each packet." However, applicants demonstrated during the interview that column 18, lines 49-57 of Nonomura discussed by the Examiner does NOT pertain to AOBs or ASVOBs. Instead, this passage is discussing VOBs.

As a result of this discussion, the Examiner agreed (as stated above) that the ASVOBs are output based on a display list, which is included in the PGC information. However, the Examiner also argued that the display list of the ASVOBs would include PTS information for indicating the output timing of the ASVOBs. Even assuming the Examiner was correct, applicants demonstrated that claim 1 requires the still picture data and the audio data to include the PTSs. Because the ASVOBs do not include

PTSs, Nonomura can not disclosure or suggest "outputting the decoded still picture data based on the respective still picture STC and presentation time stamps (PTSs) in the still picture data; and outputting the decoded audio data based on the respective audio STC and PTSs in the audio data," as recited in claim 1.

The other pending claims at least include similar recitations; and therefore are patentable for at least the reasons stated above with respect to claim 1.

While the Examiner appeared to agree with the applicants' position, the Examiner requested that applicants file this reply so that the Examiner could consider the matter further. In view of the above, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the art grounds of rejection.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the rejections has been addressed and overcome, placing the present application in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

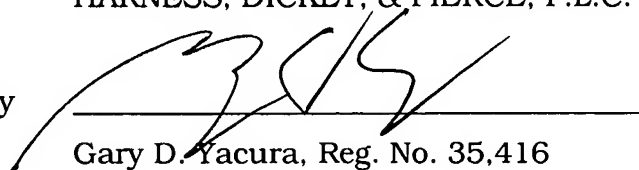
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gary D. Yacura at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'GY', is written over a horizontal line.

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